

REMARKS

General Remarks

With this Amendment, Applicant amends Claim 18, and adds new Claims 20-22. No new matter is added. Therefore, Claims 1-22 are all the claims currently pending in the present application.

Allowed Claims

The Examiner has allowed Claims 1-17.

Claims 18 and 19

Claims 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly unpatentable over Kunishige et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,634,148 (“Kunishige”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as follows.

Applicant submits that Kunishige fails to disclose or suggest at least “detecting a second reflecting ratio after moving the detection part, wherein moving the detection part is one scan within a width of an area constituted by the first, second, and third areas; and determining that the detection part was located at said third area in said start position of the moveable lens, prior to being moved, when said second reflecting ratio remains substantially constant,” as recited in Claim 18.

Therefore, Applicant submits that Kunishige fails to anticipate Claim 18 and that Claim 19 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependence on Claim 18. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 18 and 19 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

New Claims 20-22

Regarding new Claims 20-22, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable over Kunishige at least by virtue of their dependence on Claim 18.

Further, regarding Claim 21, Applicant submits that Kunishige fails to teach or suggest at least wherein “each of reflecting ratio of the first, second, and third reflecting parts in the first, second, and third areas is respectively constant along a perpendicular direction of the width of the area constituted by the first, second, and third areas.”

Regarding Claim 22, Applicant submits that Kunishige fails to teach or suggest at least “wherein said detection part includes a single sensor.”

Therefore, in view of at least the above, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of new Claims 20-22.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/754,394

Q62564

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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